## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

35

- 1. A safety switch, in particular for motor circuits of manufacturing machines and electric motors, comprising a casing (1) within which it is housed an activation key 5 (2), a pair of respective first and second contactholding elements (10, 11), and a triad consisting of a central (6), a first (7) and a second (9) electric terminals emerging from said casing, said contact-holding elements (10, 11) being oscillating about the same oscillation axis (0-0) between two positions, a passive position and an active position respectively, element (10, 11) being disposed in a tilting manner around an end of a corresponding, respectively first and second, laminar support (6, 8), each of said positions being imposed by a corresponding position of activation key (2) rotating around a rotation axis (R-R) parallel to said oscillation axis (0-0), the central terminal (6) of said triad being in permanent electric contact with one (10) of said contact-holding elements (10, 11), said first (7) and second (9) terminals being 20 each alternately separated or in electric contact with the corresponding first and second contact-holding element (10, 11) depending on the position of said key (2), the contact-holding element (10, 11) being closed 25 upon the corresponding terminal (7, 9) in a passive position and separated therefrom in an active position and vice versa, said switch being wherein said contactholding elements (10, 11) are mutually electrically connected through conductive elements that are movable 30 with respect to one another by relative displacement of mating surfaces (17a, 18a) in mutual contact.
  - 2. The safety switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein said laminar supports (6, 8) and said oscillation axis (O-O) and rotation axis (R-R) respectively, lie in the same plane.
    - 3. The safety switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein

said first laminar support (6) comprises said central electric terminal.

- 4. The safety switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein each contact-holding element (10, 11) is integral with its respective conductive element (17, 18).
- 5. The safety switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first contact-holding element (10) is supported at one end by said central terminal (6) and at the opposite end by its conductive element (18) in turn supported by the corresponding conductive element of said second contact-holding element (11).
- 6. The safety switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first contact-holding element (10) when devoid of the support of said second contact-holding element (17) has its conductive element (17) in a permanent position of non-interference with said second conductive element (18).
- 7. The safety switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein said mating surfaces (17a, 18a) are mutually movable in the same oscillation direction as said contact-holding elements (10, 11).
  - 8. The safety switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein said mating surfaces (17a, 18a) are dihedral surfaces.
- 9. The safety switch as claimed in claim 8, wherein said dihedral surfaces (17a, 18a) define an edge parallel to said oscillation axis (0-0).

30

- 10. The safety switch as claimed in claim 8, wherein said dihedral surfaces (17a, 18a) define an edge oriented in a transverse direction relative to said oscillation axis (0-0).
- 11. The safety switch as claimed in claim 10, wherein the orientation direction of said edge is inclined at an angle included between  $+30^{\circ}$  and  $-30^{\circ}$  relative to said oscillation axis (0-0).
- 35 12. The safety switch as claimed in claim 10, wherein the orientation direction of the edge lies in a

plane containing said oscillation axis (0-0).

10

- 13. The safety switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein said electric terminals (6, 7, 8) radially project from the casing (1) floor inwardly over a different height, 5 the contact point between said first terminal (7) and the corresponding contact-holding element (10) being disposed on the surface of the contact-holding element (10) facing the casing (1) floor, the contact point between said second terminal (9) and the corresponding contact-holding element (11) being disposed on the surface of the contact-holding element (11) facing said key (2).
  - 14. The safety switch as claimed in claim 1, wherein said passive position corresponds to the contact between said first contact-holding element (10)corresponding first terminal (7).